

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AID-20 SS-15 IGA-02 NSC-10 IO-13

L-03 RSR-01 PA-03 USIA-12 OMB-01 PRS-01 /128 W

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P 261735 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3113

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2421

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ES

SUBJECT: TERMINATION OF AIFLD PROGRAM

REF: SAN SALVADOR 2329

1. I MET THE MINISTER AND UNDER SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR ON JUNE 25 TO DISCUSS THE GOES TERMINATION OF THE AIFLD PROGRAM. THE MINISTER OPENED BY STATING THAT THERE WAS A GRAT DEAL OF UNREST IN THE RURAL AREAS. HE MENTIONED SOME SOURCES OF THIS FERMENT-- CATHOLIC PRIESTS, COMMUNISTS, AND, ALMOST IN THE SAME BREATH, HE ADDED THE UNION COMUNAL SALVADORENA ( UCS)-- THE AIFLD ASSISTED CAMPESINO ORGANIZATION. THE MINISTER PRODUCED COPIES OF VARIOUS SUBVERSIVE PUBLICATIONS BEING CIRCULATED IN THE CAMP-- INCLUDING A COPY OF THE CHURCH MIMEOGRAPHE PERIODICAL " JUSTICE AND PEACE". THE MINISTER SAID UNREST HAD NOT REACHED ANYTHING LIKE THAT OF 192 ( DATE OF THE BLOODY CAMPESINO UPRISING) AND HE IMPLIED THAT THE GOES WAS NOT GOING TO LET THINGS DEVELOP ALONG THOSE LINES.

2. THE MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT THE PROJECT AGREEMENT INVOLVING AIFLD GRANTED THE INSTITUTE THE INITIATIVE IN  
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PLANNING EDUCATION AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO LABOR AND THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT USURPED THE FUNCTION OF THE GOES AND OF HIS MINISTRY IN PARTICULAR. THE PROGRAM WAS TOO SENSITIVE AND HIS MINISTRY HAS TOO LITTLE CONTROL. I WAS ABLE

TO SHOW THAT IN SOME CASES THE AIFLD OR UCS ACTIVITIES WHICH HE WAS CRITICIZING HAD HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE MOL OR SOME OTHER GOES AGENCY. HE ARGUED THAT THE PROBLEM WAS NOT SO MUCH WITH ANY SPECIFIC AIFLD ACTIVITY BUT WITH THE RESULTS THEY HAD OBTAINED. THE UCS HE SAID HAD TURNED OUT TO BE OVERLY

ENTHUSIASTIC (" DEMASIADO MOTIVADO") AND ITS LEADERS OVERLY DEMANDING.

3. SINCE HE HAD MENTIONED THE SOCIAL PROJECTS ACTIVITY OF AIFLD FAVORABLY, I ASKED IF HE WOULD WANT THAT ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM CONTINUED. HE MADE CLEAR THAT THE GOES WOULD NOT HAVE AIFLD PRESENT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. THE MINISTER AGREED TO ASK HIGHER AUTHORITY FOR THE FOLLOWING DEPARTURE SCHEDULE FOR AIFLD: EDUCATION PROGRAM

TO CEASE JUNE 30; AIFLD OFFICE TO CLOSE JULY 31; AND AIFLD US AND THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL PERSONNEL TO LEAVE EL SALVADOR BY AUGUST 1.

5. COMMENT: THE FREE LABOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WAS ON

THE ROAD TO CREATING AN APOLITICAL AND EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTEREST OF THE CAMPESINOS. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE GOES CONSIDERS AN INDEPENDENT UCS A POTENTIAL THREAT TO STABILITY OF THE

COUNTRYSIDE. THE GOE PROBABLY HOPES TO CAPTURE THE UCS, WITH THE REMOVAL AIFLD BEING A FIRST STEP IN THIS DIRECTION.

6. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE OF MESSAGE TO AIFLD. CATTO

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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